

Project

3 maps describing an ideal 40 year development plan for Gowanus/Brooklyn emphasizing the relations to the neighboring ocean, the preservation of existing housing and key waterfront industries, the enlargement of the Gowanus Canal and the establishment of major New York marinas, the development of parks and pedestrian access to the waterfront, and comprehensive water filtration.

Map 1

Scale 1:400,000

An invocation, Brooklyn is observed in its corner of the Atlantic.

During the last 100 years, Brooklyn has come to measure itself against the greatness of Manhattan and the other parts of New York City.

A more durable and inspiring measure is suggested from looking outward to the seas, and Brooklyn becomes aware of self as a unit in relation to the larger earth of water and sun.

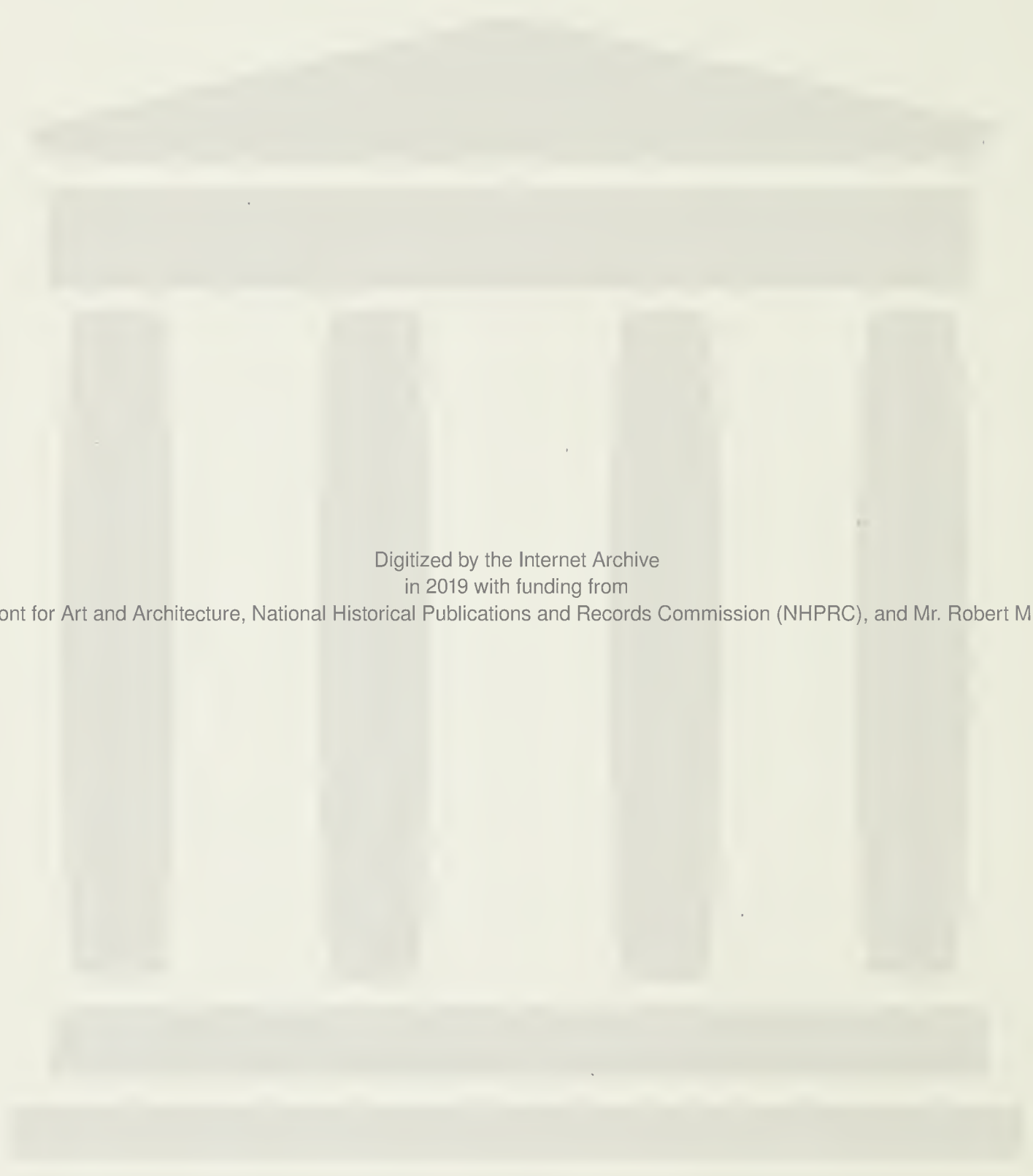
Map 2

Scale 1:24,000

Development of the Gowanus Basin/Brooklyn for the year 2020.

Base map with existing Brooklyn park land shows the extensive waterfront open space ringing the borough, which is primarily accessible to adjacent residential communities.

As a mixed industrial/residential zone, Gowanus is shown to include the entire Brooklyn waterfront on the Upper New York Harbor, extending 80 blocks from Flatbush Avenue to Bay Ridge and sloping down to Gowanus Bay and the larger estuary.



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Existing water filtration facilities, to be enlarged, are located at each end of this zone, reinforcing its potential as a planning unit, and emphasizing the ecological considerations governing development.

At the present time, this zone is a major regional seaport, and this use is to be reinforced through the modernization of shipping facilities and the active preservation of key industries.

Housing and public transit are preserved throughout the area, and the residential character of greater Gowanus and the public use of the waterfront is to be extended through the creation of major waterfront parks.

In addition, a major new development of public marinas is suggested, coordinated with the consolidation of the commercial port. Together with the new facilities for boat repair, sales, and supply, a marine-oriented community is envisioned, ten minutes by public transit from Manhattan.

It is suggested that the Gowanus Canal itself be enlarged and selectively extended into the flat land which surround it. As streets become causeways, and former empty lots and abandoned factories become marinas, a sizable new water body will provide a new focus for the local community, and for Brooklyn and New York City as a whole.

Map 3

Scale 1:9,600

Detailed plan of the proposed Gowanus Basin development, emphasizing the location of preserved industry, parks, public transportation, and the enlarged Gowanus Canal.

